

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3828

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, ENRG, UR, US
SUBJ: SOVIET PROTEST OF CONGENOFF'S TRAVEL WITH DELEGATION

REF: (A) 77 STATE 264996, (B) 77 LENINGRAD 1418

1. WE HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED A DIPLOMATIC NOTE (COPY BEING POUCHED EMBASSY AND EUR/SOV) FROM THE DIPLOMATIC AGENCY NOTING THAT CONGENOFF SVAT, WHO ACCOMPANIED O'LEARY ENERGY DELEGATION ON RECENT VISIT TO SOSNOVY BOR, WAS 1) NOT SPECIFICALLY INVITED TO VISIT SOSNOVY BOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, AND 2) DID NOT FORMALLY REGISTER HIS TRIP WITH DIPLOMATIC AGENCY. THE NOTE ADDS THAT SOSNOVY BOR IS OPEN FOR FOREIGN VISITS ONLY BY "SPECIAL PERMISSION" AND THAT DELEGATIONS ARE RECEIVED THERE ONLY IN "PREVIOUSLY AGREED COMPOSITION". NOTE CONCLUDES THAT SVAT'S ACTIVITY IS "UNAUTHORIZED" AND "GROSS VIOLATION OF ART. 28 OF SOVIET-AMERICAN CONSULAR CONVENTION".

2. U.S. ENERGY DELEGATION INDICATED AT EARLY POINT ITS INTENTION TO REQUEST THAT MPE INCLUDE CONGEN REP IN ALL DISCUSSIONS AND SITE VISITS IN LENINGRAD (PARA 4 REFTAL E); DPO ALSO DISCUSSED BY PHONE CONGENOFF PARTIC-
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IPATION WITH EMBASSY SCIOFFS; AND I ALSO MADE CLEAR MY PERSONAL EXPECTATION, IN CONNECTION WITH ENERGY DELEGATION VISIT, THAT EITHER I OR OTHER CONGENOFFS WOULD EXPECT TO BE INCLUDED ON VISITS WITHIN CONSULAR DISTRICT (REFTAL B). I CAN ONLY ASSUME, THEREFORE, THAT THE SOVIETS WERE INDEED SPECIFICALLY INFORMED IN WASHINGTON, MOSCOW, OR BOTH, OF CONGENOFF PARTICIPATION IN ALL ASPECTS OF LENINGRAD VISIT.

INDEED SPO AND SVAT MET DELEGATION AT STATION AND SVAT'S
SUBSEQUENT PARTICIPATION IN ALL SUBSTANTIVE PORTIONS OF
THE DELEGATION'S PROGRAM HERE WAS UNQUESTIONED
AND SEEMINGLY ENTIRELY EXPECTED BY SOVIET SIDE. FOR
PURPOSES OF CONSIDERING POSSIBLE REPLY TO NOTE, HOWEVER, I
WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING PRECISE INFORMATION OF VENUE
AND MANNER IN WHICH CONGEN PARTICIPATION WAS COMMUNICATED
TO SOVIETS IN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON.

3. I WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON WHETHER EMBOFFS
ROUTINELY FILE TRAVEL NOTIFICATIONS TO COVER ALL TRAVEL TO
POINTS BEYOND 30 KM. LIMIT, IN CASES WHERE EMBOFF HAS BEEN
INCLUDED IN PROGRAM OF U.S. DELEGATION VISITING SOVIET
UNION. OUR PRACTICE HERE HAS BEEN TO REQUEST SUCH TRAVEL
AUTHORIZATION WHEN JOINING DELEGATIONS IN DISTANT
CITIES, SUCH AS BALTIC CAPITALS, BUT I FIND THAT IN A FEW
INSTANCES WE HAVE NOT REGISTERED TRAVEL IN IMMEDIATE
LENINGRAD AREA WHEN CONGENOFF WAS TRAVELING AS PART OF
OFFICIAL DELEGATION, ASSUMING THAT NOTIFICATION OF HIS
PARTICIPATION IN DELEGATION WAS ADEQUATE. WE CANNOT
HOWEVER FIND ANYTHING IN OUR FILE ABOUT THIS MATTER AND
WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR STATEMENT OF EMBASSY PRACTICE.BUCHANAN

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